

**Council on Postsecondary Education
Committee on Equal Opportunities
June 16, 2009**

Statewide Diversity Plan Collaborators

Based on the action plan adopted by CPE January 16, 2009, the CEO is soliciting input from various collaborators to inform development of a mission, vision, core values, and definition of diversity that will undergird a diversity plan for public postsecondary education in Kentucky.

To facilitate the discussion process, the draft statements have been shared with collaborators, institutional presidents, provosts, legal counsels, and members of the general public as the beginning point for discussion and offering of recommendations for consideration by the CEO and CPE as elements in a diversity plan. The draft statements are a product of input from the above collaborators filtered through institution presidents, CPE staff and institutional equal opportunity representatives.

The information presented in today's meeting is a continuation of the process of the CEO seeking input from a broad array of collaborators to inform the process for developing a plan. Input received will be used to further clarify the primary plan elements, which will remain a work in progress until, to the extent possible, all collaborators have had an opportunity for input.

It is believed that a critical element is whether the plan supports the health and well being of the Commonwealth and its citizens. Thus, sustaining a statewide commitment to educational access becomes an economic imperative of effectively managing Kentucky's diverse resources and directly impacts its ability to successfully compete in the global marketplace. Conversely, the social necessity of effectively managing diversity is critical if Kentucky is to become an attractive place to live, to raise children, and to build successful businesses and careers. The following organizations were invited to speak to the Committee.

Educating Latinos for Kentucky's Future (ELKF)

The mission of ELKF is to promote and enhance educational access and opportunities for Latino students in Kentucky. The purposes of ELKF are: a) Informing Latinos about post-secondary educational opportunities, b) Supporting, through fundraising, organizations which provide scholarship assistance to Latino student, c) Informing Kentucky's post-secondary educators and administrators about the importance of educating Latinos and strategies for doing so, and, d) Other activities devoted to the educational advancement of Latinos in Kentucky.

Educator Quality and Diversity (KY Department of Education)

Educator Quality and Diversity secures the talents and skills of the highest quality professionals for every classroom, school, and district in Kentucky. The Division seeks to recruit, select, and retain exceptional, multi-dimensional individuals who have chosen education as their career. Traditional educational programs, scholarships, alternative certification routes, professional development, and early identification initiatives are tools used to accomplish this undertaking. The implementation of such systemic policies and programs will provide the Commonwealth with diverse, competent, caring educators, who are essential to ensure that children reach their maximum potential.

Kentucky State Conference NAACP Branches

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination.

The vision of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights and there is no racial hatred or racial discrimination.

The following statement of objectives is found on the first page of the NAACP Constitution, the principal objectives of the Association are:

- To ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of all citizens
- To achieve equality of rights and eliminate race prejudice among the citizens of the United States
- To remove all barriers of racial discrimination through democratic processes
- To seek enactment and enforcement of federal, state, and local laws securing civil rights
- To inform the public of the adverse effects of racial discrimination and to seek its elimination
- To educate persons as to their constitutional rights and to take all lawful action to secure the exercise thereof and to take any other lawful action in furtherance of these objectives, consistent with the NAACP, Articles of Incorporation and this Constitution.

Governor's Office of Minority Empowerment

The Governor's Office of Minority Empowerment (GOME) was created in March 2004 with a mission to work for the success of minorities throughout the Commonwealth. The office is charged with the primary responsibilities of ensuring that all minorities are better represented and receive equal access in the following areas of empowerment: economic development, education, healthcare, housing, government services and criminal justice matters.

The plan/policy review workgroup will continue to provide opportunities for collaborators to provide input and suggestions to further clarify the postsecondary education diversity plan. As opportunities are identified, members of CEO and its constituents will be given notice.

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